

Amendments to the Specification:

The following paragraphs will replace prior versions for this application.

Amended paragraphs:

[0006] Embodiments of the invention will be described in detail, with reference to the following figures, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a view of a work vehicle in which the invention may be used;

Fig. 2. is a view of an exemplary embodiment of a front portion of the work vehicle illustrated in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a view of an exemplary embodiment of a removable linkage pin support from the front frame illustrated in Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a view of an exemplary embodiment of the removable linkage pin support of Fig. 3 with associated linkage pins assembled in place;

Fig. 5 is a detailed view of the front frame illustrated in Fig. 2 showing load bearing areas having a hole pattern that matches that of the removable linkage pin support shown in Fig. 4;

Fig. 6 is an exploded view of the exemplary embodiment of the front frame, the removable linkage pin support, and other associated parts illustrated in Fig. 2;

Fig. 7 is a detailed sectional view of attachment hole 121b shown in Fig. 6

Fig. 8 is a view of an alternate embodiment of the front portion of the work vehicle illustrated in Fig. 2; and

Fig. 9 is a view of an alternate embodiment of the removable linkage pin support shown in Fig. 3.

[0010] Fig. 3 is a detailed view of the removable linkage pin support 100 which includes leveling link support areas 101 and 102, each having a threaded linkage pin attachment hole 103 and a linkage pin insertion hole 104. The removable linkage pin support 100 also includes a tilt cylinder support area 105 having a threaded linkage pin attachment hole 106 and linkage pin insertion holes 107. Included in each leveling link support area are access holes 108 for assembling the linkage pin

111 to the tilt cylinder support area 105. In practice, the linkage pin 111 is assembled to the tilt cylinder support area 105 by inserting it into the insertion holes 107 via one of the access holes 108. Also included are attachment holes 109a and 109b for rigidly attaching the removable linkage pin support 100 to the front frame 20 via screws 130a and 130b respectively. Finally, a hydraulics access hole 108a is provided for supplying hydraulics to the hydraulic tilt cylinder 81 via hydraulic tubes or pipes (not shown). Linkage pins 110 and 111 are assembled as shown in Fig. 4 after the first ends of the leveling links 82a and 82b and the hydraulic tilt cylinder 81 are in place for mounting to the removable linkage pin support 100. Note that Fig. 8 details an alternate embodiment of the linkage pin support of Fig. 3 in which linkage pin attachment holes 103', 106'; linkage pin insertion holes 104', 107'; and attachment holes 109a', 109b' may be alternately located.

[0012] In practice, the locator bushings 123 are placed in the countersunk portions 121b' and the linkage pin support 100 is assembled to the front frame 20 by placing the matching attachment holes 109b directly over the exposed areas of the locator bushings 123 and pressing the linkage pin support 100 down. The linkage pin support 100 is then rigidly attached to the front frame 20 via bolts 130a and 130b. Note that the alternate linkage pin support 100' may be used in an identical fashion to attach the alternate linkage 80' which may have alternate left and right leveling links 82a', 82b'; an alternate straight lever 83'; an alternate guide link 84'; and an alternate bucket link 85'. Other linkage pin supports may be configured to accommodate linkages of entirely different configurations.